

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Preliminarily, the Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the allowability of the subject matter of claims 1-3, pending the resolution of the technicalities under §112. The Applicant confirms the election of claims 1-3 for prosecution. Accordingly, claims 4-9 have been cancelled without prejudice to their later re-entry (*e.g.*, in a divisional application). Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In order to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended to specify a "BINOL-lanthanum complex" in place of a "lanthanum-linked BINOL complex", and the Markush language of claim 3 has been revised. Accordingly, the claims are now fully compliant with §112, and the Applicant requests the withdrawal this rejection.

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

MAYER BROWN ROWE & MAW LLP

By: 

Christopher M. Beck, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 52,603  
Direct No. (202) 263-3374

Paul L. Sharer  
Registration No. 36,004  
Direct No. (202) 263-3340

Intellectual Property Group  
1909 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1101  
(202) 263-3000 Telephone  
(202) 263-3300 Facsimile  
Date: May 10, 2004